

59BC - ~~49BC~~ 50BC CAESAR IN GAUL

At the close of his consulship (59BC) Caesar secured command of the Gallie provinces for 5 yrs as proconsul. For the next ten yrs (58BC-49BC) he abandoned Italy for the supreme work that opened to him beyond the Alps. He found the Province threatened by two great military invasions: the whole people of the HELVETII were migrating from their Alpine homes in search of more fertile lands; and a great German nation, under the king ARIOVISTUS, was already encamped

Roman civilization was won among fresh populations, unexhausted and vigorous. The map widened from the Mediterranean circle to include the shores of the North Sea and Baltic seas. The land that Caesar made Roman (modern France) was next to Greece and Italy, to form down to the present time, the chief instructer of Europe. On the other hand, except for this work of Caesar "our civilization itself would have stood in hardly more intimate relation to the Romano-Greek than to the Assyrian culture.

58-50 BC

Caesar's Conquest of Gaul